

This year we once again set aside a special day to honor our commitment to the rule of law. For this year's observance, the American Bar Association has selected the theme of "Your Access to Justice." It is a most appropriate one, for it asks us to reflect not only upon how our legal system can be made more responsive to our needs, but also upon the nature of justice itself.

Access to justice involves issues that lie beyond the scope of any single group. The law is not the private property of lawyers, nor is justice the exclusive province of judges and juries. In the final analysis, true justice is not a matter of courts and law books, but of a commitment in each of us to liberty and to mutual respect. Accordingly, the efforts of the legal profession to elicit the help and advice of all Americans are to be commended.

To encourage the people of the United States to consider their individual responsibilities with respect to our legal system, the Congress, by joint resolution approved April 7, 1961 (75 Stat. 43, 36 U.S.C. 164) has requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the American people to observe the first day of May of each year as Law Day, U.S.A.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, ask all Americans to celebrate Monday, May 1, 1978, as Law Day, U.S.A., and to honor the principle of equal justice under law. I ask all public officials to display the flag of the United States on all public buildings on that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4566

April 25, 1978

National Architectural Barrier Awareness Week, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Physical access is often the key to whether people can enjoy their rights and freedoms, and exercise their responsibilities. Every day, however, millions of elderly and handicapped Americans are denied access to places of employment, houses of worship, shops, schools, public services, recreational areas and many other facilities that other Americans take for granted.

If all Americans are to have true access, we must remove the architectural barriers in our society that block some of our people from full participation and self-reliance. We must also remove the barriers of attitude and custom that have prevented many people from doing what they can.

The Congress expressed its commitment to the removal of physical barriers from Federal buildings by enacting the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Act in 1968. The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, created to enforce that act, will soon launch a national media campaign about barriers using the slogan, "Access America."

This Administration has taken steps to improve the access of handicapped citizens by issuing regulations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act which require recipients of federal financial assistance to improve the accessibility of their programs to the disabled. We have also proposed a loan fund to assist institutions to pay for physical alterations when needed.

42 USC 4151
note.

29 USC 794.

Many of the barriers that block people from opportunity and fulfillment are not subject to Federal regulation. Their elimination will require awareness and concern on the part of business and industry, state and local governments and organizations of all sorts, as well as individuals, in order that our society may provide access for full participation to all our people.

To encourage public awareness of the problems of such barriers, the Ninety-fifth Congress has adopted a joint resolution (H.J. Res. 578) requesting the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week in May of the 1978 and of 1979 as National Architectural Barrier Awareness Week and calling for its appropriate observance. *Ante*, p. 212.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the third week of May 1978 as National Architectural Barrier Awareness Week and ask all Americans to do all that lies within their power to remove these unnecessary barriers and to eliminate any lingering social and psychological stigma surrounding disabilities. Together we can make access a reality for all Americans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4567

April 27, 1978

Loyalty Day, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout the remainder of our third century of national existence, America will face problems that will differ markedly from those we have confronted in the past. Yet some things will remain constant. Among these is the loyalty of the American people.

Because we are a free people, the loyalty we feel to our country is deeper than that which any imposed political or ideological orthodoxy could possibly evoke. And as long as we continue to remain faithful to the principles and freedoms on which our republic was founded, that loyalty will see us through whatever challenges lie ahead.

To encourage the people of the United States to reflect upon the liberties and institutions that have inspired the loyalty of so many generations of Americans, the Congress, by joint resolution of July 18, 1958 (72 Stat. 369; 36 U.S.C. 162) has designated the first day of May of each year as Loyalty Day and has requested the President to issue a proclamation calling for its appropriate observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, call upon all Americans to observe Monday, May 1, 1978, as Loyalty Day. I ask the appropriate officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on that day on all Government buildings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER